

OUTREACH MEETING DISCUSSION SUMMARY
MEETING DATE JUNE 5, 2009

Staff in attendance: Gary Hessong, DPDR Division Director
Sharon Goetz, Manager of Permitting Services
John Picco, Chief, Plan Review
Bryon Mitchell, Manager, Office of Life Safety
Larry Willard, Chief Plumbing Inspector
Pamela Moulton, P&I Customer Service Supervisor

Agenda items discussed:

- Update on Residential Combination Inspection Program
 - All Building Inspectors have achieved their required certifications for Residential Combination Inspector, all Plumbing Inspectors with exception of the Chief Inspector have achieved theirs', and all Electrical Inspectors with the exception of the Chief Inspector and one other Inspector have achieved their required certifications. The Residential Combination Inspector Certification is required of all P&I Inspectors by September 1st of this year.
 - Cross-training is still ongoing. We had a slight setback due to the Chief Electrical Inspector's absence, who has been out on sick leave. The Chief Inspectors are working on a list of types of inspections that can be done by Residential Combination Inspectors.

- Fee Increases and Adjustments Effective July 1st Relative to Permits & Inspections
 - Health Dept. fees increase (Review fee, Septic Installation fee, Septic Repair fee)
 - School and Library Impact Fees increase. It was noted as a reminder that the Impact Fees ordinance states that the Impact Fee is charged according to the date of permit *issuance*, not the *application* date. Therefore, if a Building Permit is applied for prior to July 1st, but has not issued as of July 1st, the amount of the increase is due prior to permit issuance.

- Some of the “Targeted Fee Schedule Changes” were discussed, and a handout was provided, which is attached to this discussion summary.
 - It was noted by Bryon Mitchell, Manager of the Office of Life Safety, that one of their fees actually went *down* in cost – the re-inspection fee related to Building Permits.
- ICC Conference Comes to Baltimore This Fall
Information was provided from the ICC website about the International Code Council Annual Conference and Code Development Hearing, to be held October 24th – November 11th of this year. The ICC website has up-to-date details at: <http://www.iccsafe.org/news/annual/>

Other Discussion:

- Types of Revisions. Revision Fees vary according to the type of revision. The categories are:
1. Administrative Revisions: This fee is charged when there are changes to a permit application that *do not involve the submission of new building plans*.
 2. Additional Plan Review Charges: This fee is charged when there *is* a submission of new building plans *in direct response to a plan review comment*.
 3. Applicant Initiated Revisions: This fee is charged when there is a submission of new building plans that are *not* in response to a plan review comment, but rather, the Applicant decided to make the changes on their own.
- Training Seminars for FY10. The tentative schedule of Maryland’s DHCD (Department of Housing and Community Development) Training seminars was shared. Since the Accessibility Training Seminar held here in April was very well attended, DHCD would like to bring more seminars to this area, and would like to use our facility.
- National Code. One of the Attendees shared that he has become aware of the possibility of a National building code under consideration.
- Visitability. There was discussion about House Bill 998 (Housing - Maryland Building Performance Standards - Minimum Features for Accessibility). Up-to-date information can be obtained on the State’s legislative website at:
<http://mlis.state.md.us/2009rs/billfile/HB0998.htm>

The synopsis for the bill reads (copied from the website):

Synopsis:

Requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development to include in the Maryland Building Performance Standards specified minimum features for accessibility applicable to new single-family residential real property; clarifying the authority of a local jurisdiction to adopt local amendments to the Standards; requiring a local jurisdiction to adopt a specified procedure for a permit applicant to obtain a waiver from minimum features for accessibility; etc.

There were many concerns raised about the bill, including increased construction costs, design issues, and the logistics that could be involved to meet the requirements.

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Please note: This ends the published discussion summary, which may not include all discussion that occurred. It is not intended to be actual minutes of the meeting.